

INTERNATIONAL TRUCK AND ENGINE CORPORATION

3025 WAYNE TRAC, PO BOX 10088, FORT WAYNE, IN 46800-0088

TRUCK GROUP

October 11, 2000

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Admin.
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington D.C. 20590

00V-246.105
00V-246.205

Subject: Vehicle Safety Defect Initial Information Report

Pursuant to Part 573.5, this Vehicle Safety Defect Initial Information Report is submitted by International Truck and Engine Corporation.

This report relates to 20-EDL model ball-sockets on tie rods and drag links manufactured by TRW. Our contact at TRW is:

Dave Hopson
TRW Commercial Steering Systems
P.O. Box 60
Lafayette, IN 47902
Phone: (765) 429-1768

- (1) **INTERNATIONAL RECALL NUMBER ASSIGNED:**
00512 For Tie Rods and 00513 For Drag Links.
- (2) **VEHICLE MODELS INVOLVED:**
Recall 00512 for Tie Rods includes 2000, 4000, 5000, 8000 and 9000 model series.

Recall 00513 for Drag Links includes 1000, 2000, 3000, FE, RE, 4000 and 8000 model series.
- (3) **MODEL YEARS INVOLVED:** 1999 and 2000.
- (4) **OTHER IDENTIFICATION NECESSARY TO DESCRIBE VEHICLES:**
Only certain combinations of Model codes and Meritor or Dana front axle codes are involved.

- (5) **VEHICLE MANUFACTURING DATES:**
00512: 7/5/99 through 11/31/99.
00513: 7/5/99 through 10/31/99.
- (6) **VEHICLE POPULATION INVOLVED:**
00512: Tie Rods: 8,760 vehicles.
00513: Drag Links: 15,257 vehicles.
- (7) **PORTION OF POPULATION ESTIMATED TO CONTAIN DEFECT:** Sixty percent, 60%.
- (8) **DESCRIPTION OF DEFECT:** The heat-treating furnace was not operating to specified temperatures during the production of the suspect parts. Failed 20-EDL ball sockets have exhibited premature wear and ball stud separation because of low case depths and a lower than specification hardness of the bearings.
- (9) **RISK TO MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY:** If the ball stud separates from the ball socket, the driver could lose steering control and possibly have a vehicular accident resulting in property damage, personal injury, or death.
- (10) **CHRONOLOGY OF PRINCIPAL EVENTS WHICH LED TO DETERMINATION OF A SAFETY DEFECT:**
 - A. 08/09/2000, TRW contacted International to discuss this issue for the first time.
 - B. 09/05/2000, TRW gave written notification of this issue to International and outlined suspect product shipped and part replacement recommendations.
 - C. 09/27/00, Meritor gave written notification of TRW's issue with the axles Meritor supplies to International.
 - D. 10/04/00, International extended the end date of the suspect population of vehicles from 10/31/99 to 11/31/99 based on the revised suspect population from Meritor's 9/27/00 notification to International.
 - E. 10/05/2000, International declared Safety Recalls 00512 and 00513.
- (11) **PROGRAM TO BE TAKEN TO REMEDY DEFECT:** Inspect all tie rods and drag links for the suspect date code range and replace those parts built within the suspect date range.

(12) THE SCHEDULE FOR THIS RECALL IS: Applies to both 00512 and 00513

Notify Field Service: Monday: 10/16/2000

Notify Dealers: Monday: 10/23/2000

Notify Customers: Monday: 11/06/2000

(13) PROCEDURE TO INFORM SECRETARY OF FAILURE TO REMEDY WITHOUT CHARGE: Paragraph to be added to owner notification letter as follows: If you take your vehicle to your International dealer on a mutually agreed upon service date and the dealer does not remedy this condition without charge on that date or within five days, you can obtain assistance by following the procedure described in the Owner Assistance Guide section of your Owner's Manual. You may also wish to submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20590, or call the toll-free Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 if your International dealer fails to remedy or is unable to remedy this condition without charge or within a reasonable time.

(14) OWNER LETTER AND TECHNICAL LETTER: Refer to number (12).

The undersigned should be contacted for any additional information regarding this recall on (219) 461-1890.

Very truly yours,

INTERNATIONAL TRUCK AND ENGINE CORPORATION



R. L. Van Laar
Compliance Manager

Enclosure

Certified Mail: 7099-3400-0006-6832-4050

cc: B. S. Henriksen - TRC



INTERNATIONAL TRUCK AND ENGINE CORPORATION

2033 WAYNE TRACE, PO BOX 10088, FORT WAYNE, IN 46880-0088

TRUCK GROUP

November 19, 2001

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Admin.
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington D.C. 20590

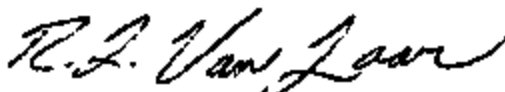
**SUBJECT: Attached Revised Vehicle Safety Defect Initial Information
Report for our Safety Recall 00512, your 00V-246.105.**

After the release of recall 00512, International decided to expand the TRW tie rod recall to include everything built with the 20-EDL tie rod ends. For this reason, we had dealers stop submitting claims for 00512 and we replaced 00512 with the new expanded recall 01510. All the new customers that were added from the expansion along with the customers that had their vehicles inspected without part replacement in 00512 were notified with the release of 01510. If the tie rod ends were replaced, they were replaced in pairs.

With the above changes, International will report 100% completion for 00512 in the third quarterly report of 2001 and continue reporting the progress for the rest of the affected vehicles under the new recall number 01510. Please make the required changes in your records. If you have any further questions or require additional information please call (219) 461-1873.

Very truly yours,

INTERNATIONAL TRUCK AND ENGINE CORPORATION



R. L. Van Laar
Compliance Manager

Certified Mail: 7099-3400-0006-6830-0665

Cc: B. S. Henriksen - Cartera



INTERNATIONAL TRUCK AND ENGINE CORPORATION

3023 WAYNE TRACE, PO BOX 10060, FORT WAYNE, IN 46860-0060

TRUCK GROUP

Revised For 00512, Quantity Change Only, November 19, 2001
Original dated October 11, 2000

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Admin.
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington D.C. 20590

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- (6) **VEHICLE POPULATION INVOLVED:**
00512: Tie Rods: was 8,760 vehicles, changed to 6,211.
00513: Drag Links: 15,257 vehicles.
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